

## Message Text

SECRET

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16  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 DHA-02 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-03 H-02

SS-15 NSC-05 EB-07 SY-05 OPR-02 SSO-00 COME-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /075 W  
----- 095247

R 120400Z AUG 76  
FM AMEMBASSY SANA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8789  
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

S E C R E T SANA 2799

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, US, SA, YE, YS  
SUBJECT: VICTOR DICK, NCR REP, IN JAIL IN PDRY

REF: SANA 2448

1. AHMED ABDO SAID TOLD CHARGE AUGUST 11, THAT HE HAD SOME HOPES THAT HIS REFTEL APPROACHES TO PDRY OFFICIALS WOULD SUCCEED IN WINNING RELEASE FROM PRISON FOR NCR REP VICTOR DICK.

2. SAID TOLD CHARGE THAT WHEN HE HAD ASKED FOR DICK'S RELEASE, HE HAD ALSO ASKED FOR SPECIAL CONSIDERATION FOR 14 OTHERS, SEVEN WHO SIMPLY COULDN'T GET PERMISSION TO LEAVE PDRY AND A FAMILY OF SEVEN WHOSE HEAD WAS IMPRISONED. THE FIRST SEVEN GOT EXIT PERMITS PROMPTLY, AND IN THE LAST WEEK THE FAMILY HEAD WAS SPRUNG AND GIVEN PERMISSION TO TAKE HIS FAMILY OUT OF PDRY. ALL 14 WERE YEMENIS, BUT SAID IS HOPEFUL THAT PDRY OFFICIALS WILL NEVERTHELESS ALSO ACT IN DICK CASE.

3. SAID SAID HE HAD THEREFORE WRITTEN PDRY MININT, MUHAMMAD SALIH YAFAI ABOUT DICK. HE THINKS, HOWEVER, THAT THE WILL HEAR SOMETHING FROM ABDAL AZIZ ABDAL WALI SOON.

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4. ALSO ON DICK, LOCAL REP OF NCR, HALIM CANAAN, A

LEBANESE WHO TOOK DICK'S PLACE, CALLED ON ME TO ASK WHAT NEXT STEPS COMPANY MIGHT TAKE.

5. CANAAN SAID THEY STILL HAD OFFICE IN PDRY, BUT AS FORM OF PRESSURE ON GOVERNMENT THEY HAD REFUSED MAINTAIN STOCKS OF SPARES OR TAKE MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS. THEY KEPT ONLY ONE OR TWO TECHNICIANS, DID LITTLE SELLING. THEY REFUSED TO SELL COMPUTER TO PDRY (SO IBM DID). ACCORDING CANAAN, WHEN MRS. DICK WAS IN ADEN, SHE WOULD TRY TO ANSWER EVERY REQUEST FOR SERVICE HERSELF, TAKING HER BABY, AND TELLING ANYONE WHO WOULD LISTEN THAT THE HUSBAND WAS UNFAIRLY IMPRISONED.

6. I SUGGESTED TO CANAAN THAT POLICY OF RESISTANCE, AND CERTAINLY COURAGE OF MRS.DICK, SOUNDED LIKE RIGHT ONE FOR TIME WHEN PDRY TRYING TO EXTORT FUNDS FROM COMPANY, BUT TIME MAY HAVE COME FOR NCR TO OFFER TO EXPAND SERVICE, SPARE STOCKS, TECHNICIANS IF RPT IF THEY GET ASSURANCES THAT COMPANY WILL BE ALLOWED TO OPERATE IN SAFETY. ONLY CONVINCING ASSUANCES, UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES, WOULD BE RELEASE OF DICK. CANAAN SAID HE WOULD REPORT THIS IDEA TO NCR OFFICIALS.

COMMENT: IF PDRY OFFICIALS ARE LOOKING FOR SOME KIND OF A QUID PRO QUO FOR RELEASING DICK, THIS COULD HELP. IF AMOUNTS, AT SAME TIME, TO NOTHING MORETHAN PLEDGE BY NCR TO DO BUSINESS IN SOUTH.IT IS NOT PAYMENT OF ANY KIND OF RANSOM. DEPARTMENT MAY WANT TO BRIEF NCR REPS ON SAID EFFORTS AND POSSIBILITY THAT SAUDIS ARE ALSO ENGAGED IN APPROACHES TO PDRY TO MAKE CLEAR NCR WOULD BE MAKING PARALLEL NOT ISOLATED EFFORT. SAID NOTHING TO CANAAN ABOUT SAID OR SAUDIS. IF DEPARTMENT DECIDES TO APPROACH NCR, IT SHOULD SUGGEST COMPANY MOVE QUICKLY TO CATCH UP WITH YARG AND SAUDI MOVES.  
RANSOM

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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, US, SA, YE, YS, (DICK, VICTOR)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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